



TURNS IN A CLOUD

John M. Bennett

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WSE69

Some of these poems first appeared in
Otoliths and *DEGU: A Journal of Signs*.

For C. Mehrl Bennett

Le Dernier Verse Reflux

elles viennent cor
pse feet sky to
day c'est pareille un
negatif understood in
headless fog le vis
age le haha shape of
ears vast automobiles
paradise ants de la
tête skin and rocks
silence des twin cities
sweetness in the lots
aux mots sans mots a
round the - écoute -
corner - un beau jour -
from the - absent - library

*Found in Ivan Argüelles'
"kathmandu" & Samuel Beckett's
Collected Poems 1930-1978*

ccchheese whhheedle

sssssssshhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhop
er emanation ,entry ,dog c
lip shapes the finger hhhh
eld my form or arm b
urger hhhhhelper)ape dr
awn lunch(*Yep ,An*
diron ,yr pull closet fu
lla llillin an escalation
.went *out* ,tried *cash* ,s

warmed the throttled **J**
ewels

“yr nate yr ache ,F
leddy singing”

Half the apes were...
- *Cap'n Cook*

reap the wind

rust upon yr loo t a
singing fog ah knotty one
,barreled ,ptomaine ,sh
ort sleefs f rayed
ligke *fflags*)dot's touse
led ,lang charm butt er s
tongue ,up(on the st
inking lake yr leap
enabled like a b
omber lengua ...t rust
Oma ,*b lot yr .d.u.s.t.....*

...what choking says.
- *Samuel Beckett*

lo do

te sob o me
at aca do lo
acre de mi
t a z a

woo 1

lo ma ta
do she
ep p ile
dans la
p;luie;;;;;;;

ru le

or s hat o
r r ose o
s too d a
gain st th
w a l l

si ege

lac rado s
oy la llu
via la pu
er ta fl
Oj a

souze

in tend in
stance in
vent in r
un in g
ate
(a he ad)

a podo

fog wind ~ ~
to alla in
visible la
pu erta
in nombrable

s tamp

mi fazce m
i tron ado
m i mi
mar tan
lag **O**s

sh ame

tous too
th tous
t rain a
ge por f
I **N**

bl and

c ame ulp
g rain yr
sh adow p
elf hun
g out to
p **l** **y**

ch ert

duh w all ex
plo d es da
mni fak ir
re dent i
fric io

bocamama

w hy

‘s nent ‘s
bablood ba
ba ifi c
ante el temp
lo loh lihbr
os que

m~ a~ d~ o~ s~

flo od or

sh elf a rose a
g ape f
lees a f
ile melts *ajh*

((i s l a))

visage ,paper

young street mountain fren
zy impassive rivers sw
eating in the map's tri
vial racket)*glaring off*
the mirror(blank ,fumant
,cobalt powder spray en
igmas électiques ecrire
même la rumba migraine
in Nothing ils rient ils man
gent ,soles in the ditch dist
ant se men un coup de
feu next time

Found in Ivan Argüelles'
"maenad" & "door",
and in Samuel Beckett's
Collected Poems, 1930-1978

fond du néant

the half-during pencil asylum
muffled collage inside for
lunch fasu congress never
floated air feu sable
import the faucet club bou
ffe brûle recons acate
the koolaid sauf elle
,ventre paragraph thirst le
ciel plantain légère brote
tomb tombe de la voix
furniture futures ,symp
bouche mite vide the
hnorn bbite fenêtre des
fidèles ,bricks poison gravi
tatul peering sans voix
spinning ,mechanistic ,samedi
répit downright mob cir
cles d'être né d'êt
re né d' être n é

*Found in Jim Leftwich's
Six Months Aint No Sentence, Book 42
and Samuel Beckett's
Collected Poems, 1930-1978*

a cá

fond plurilactante
ma pluie m
a tête rinconante

/sombra sombre//

en cre

lot ta ingch
tomar tanto *t*
anto)un boli(

k kae

ru e

wall et bou
mis billetes mi
moho ma
peau *pauvre*(

shape sleep

b lip uh s nore u
h ham s sal ad f
lOating in the tub yr
feet run t)for
m an jok e(

hair wadded in the watches

yip yap

dag banded with a
s pout t urn an
tur n b lap an
bla p the st
orm bun ch ball
oOned

tight an barking

Dump Hang

I ussed the ffogg I
- lint peed - wobb

Worm

sieze she's
in drifted lab
-]a door...
f r og drip
d
d
d

each grunt

la rata lectiva

days nor .wills
chow der n
or s law h am
:I'm dit ch
ump .*whee*
Is an }ph ones{

a leg))wr it o ff

smell toothorn

bot ululism “w
hy” im pockt yr
naze all s
ticky with th
))blood((♦

towers an dogs

explosive car

yr gnat dr
one my .bell
figuration nits
a *wave* a
.b ile fauce
t ,boiling tow
els ,the bit
e contr acts

fuel)(nod

matter brackly

duck I tear d
own the c *up*
shadow it's a
libp it's uh
nomber lair a
pen d ant gr
istle

)your lube(

r un

chew the suit eh
ecatl ,foaming s
anditch spi
der zips ben
eath the f
ridge

...it ch...

e h

th p arked s **T**

on**E** t h eee
ntry g as yr
fogclo ck lun

Ks the wa//

...tic...k...

u h

mu te che
ese th sw
eaty lip id
p late th
e ga zing
mou t h

la...it

s t i n k

pale nut th
e drippbly d
esk yr f
oot **d** rain m
y

))asal n

flatu

words cows sots
pats past spat
ps taper g
as

t aps

lence

dob bodt c
ame bob fl
ame ,th
e raze or

int ,s e e

ik

came clam cema
clalm unc
lothed de
necked *re*
stormed

...f...l...ail...

sublimation

red ham o
r f ingered l
unch the s
tin king *c up*
's plas tic

~ ~

y et

more sod mo
re dot s mor
e rriver's s

KY

...ell.....

ro ute

epticure yr
skank th
umb er m
olter *whh*
eeeeeeeeeeeeeeeel

O ~

y ow

godt dungk
m ate cor
n b lood
nur g as



oy

ay er m
is c **Ojo**
nes ted
leggs m
is pi
ernas t
us

...pi es...

i s

CHEW THE LAKE be

d flooder snore my n
ap itite shaker ,clroud
ma p nexst the sh
ower head .there the
bombs *there the s*
ink

)*)your sordid shoulder((*

ru in

S ample rain ,my
n odd ing coff
ee ntrada por l
as pie dras t
ico lo *mo ja do*
rm ido .so f ell
into my ,casa pir
amidal ,n ichos
fulla heads

yr tomb yr shirt

A 2x3 grid of six black dots arranged in two rows of three.

))))))*the twisting dust*

mu g

real f lake whot do
g girl inahspiration
where yr sub lim
ate crusted's on
the cup .**4** .ra
ags cl amber o ff
the field of c locks
.she~exhales she~re
gurgitates she~em
bedded is ,was air
escaped the so a
king sheet

((drowning in the wall))

ongue

the air's poured shoe the
the balance step away an
d rop e swirling from

the T ree a buganvilla
brushedsh the blue w
all steps away the pl
aster c rumbles the w
ords blinded in the dust

fin *d*

ay less tot or ste
am writ hing from the
p late a dog c loud ,w
atch ,see thing gris
tle ,the fork in l
int imates' yr

long ape **D** NA yr
child's eyes the end

ond a

sack o' tones o'
bul emia an b
lender b ooks a
d awn's tor n a s
winging from the
barrandal a ra
dio en la fuente
a h o g a d a

los s

the loose ham's lin
t he leakin g ate
mou th b othered
with a b owling b
all forks all k
nives all sp
oons eyes cl
osed under the
humming fridge

s'ti

my door's seer cream it's
,chum wind's an yr sticky
ear it's ,f lame it's ,dr
inks yr ash soda ,tape's
peeling off yr face ,it's
,cloud's source ,timer it's
,chunk's long futilized
,it's a ,done peel ,me
at s lumps be neath the
table it's ,phones the
,clown it's ,it's H-ing ch
air h ∞ h ∞ h ∞ h ∞ h ∞ h ∞ h ∞

it's spoon it's lung

s.lva

yr shit flaucet ,one
loot scrawled ,the
drip-tegxt umento
f raying in yr che
wed-off shoulder)wh
ere the ANTS c(old
asleep beside the

stdream a dump **e**
.dog rice nor ,leaf
howlers in the ditz
ant dargk trees

...gnats'''and,fing,e,rs.....

mbres

- avec plusieurs mots de Samuel Beckett

root blade sky musique de
l'indifférence my sticks in
hand ventre à terre I squ
all an sleep bouche suçant
à vide the bed wr inkles
,cornered ants ,clouds sur
ma tombe d'air

...cara de fango...

- José Eustacio Rivera

fe there

*t*he fried dust the watt
leakage ,why wire ,net
clinking with ,uh yr
,peldaño ,foco ,usanza
famélica ,mis truenos
demobilizados *ak ak k*
a ka ,chain de mudada de
tenida de mostrada y
mustia como mi lenk
gua gua .*the tired*
c rust the flat be ak
turning on the edge of
the roof

...plu...ma...

inmanent

*the mailed stunner of yr
grasp the clotty ape
cocktailer in nur fogus
shapes uh ,tent on fire
,lugar a menos ,port
tátil ,informática s
inking in the diverticulitis
soup yr))scalded sh
oulder(((an the doppler
scream .yr age re
acts an .twisty one ,c
hoking onna stamp*

*...carte, et boue...
- Petrus Borel*

...ang

i tch cloud ,nuk tap e
yr ,barri cade ,s lope a
way ,blood d rains out a
)...crawl...(span dex
atrim yr ,feat hers sp
ot •)**The Spitter** *crawls(•*
clotty knots deck yr
shirt .*the drilling fog the*
,soap thinking in its blurry
fog ...heavy tubes
wander off...

...shoe...street, with smoke...

ee t

look ,the sot leg fanjet
focused on the fin
ger laid across yr
headache whwhoo
sshing like toilet's s
tuck fl ush st
ood above the st
eep whirl exploding
knee my .)))itching
ash my frenchfry
soaked in pee

pulled the pants off and

...sp lash...
- Emily Dickinson

ujo

requetefluxus requete requete re
quetefluxus requetefluxus reque
te requete requete requete requete
fluxus flujo del mar árido
del mar ácido del mar inrequete
ámbito del respirar inrequete
doloroso inrequete inrequete in
requete seco del pecho in
undado del fluxus requete
reflujado resaca de los
70 años requeteflojos in
flados requeteinertes y re
quetahumados como
migas echadas en el sueño
del flujo requeterequeter
quetememorizado

...lx...

- George Maciunas

...k...

- Kurt Schwitters

...requetemortal...

- Ramón López Velarde

sl

uh face clam eh ton
ggue ape whee zing all
n ight the window s hapes
yr drying air the wormy
p illow yr cold pants
grasp un seated chair
ay yr ropy hairdo !)cor
n falling from yr throat(
)rice ,the stiffened kitch
en())*where yr jacket*
closed yr eyes beneath
the bed a tooth a
paperclip a single pill..... ●

eep

wallets

doc k an for m s inn
er drizzle where the
looted comb nestles in
my face your tub of
chocolate and larva
,las tortillas tiesas ,con
lubricantes con grava con
,essenceation ,fog recuerdo
,choose sin calcetines f
ull of dusty crackers y
un dedo ,me puse el pan
talón y me puse el pa
ntalón .*the skeeters*
waits behind the door

| * * *

Vault de Mer

the white letters l'enfant
de ta singerie the shadow
in the rock's ton silence
de mouche running into
the lake ,language of
l'etanglerie shifting
in your robes buttocks
de la langue roaches
,nuagerie ,salive of mask
,Soma ,dehors la famine
,brain dog ,sari d'écriture
énucléé ,unzipped ,smoking
the map du singe hurleur
,O Tapatío calme ,ma nuque !

shifting bedbugs ,lumière de cuisseau

*Muttering through 3 April 2013 poems by
Ivan Argüelles and De singes et de mouches
by Jacques Dupin, 2001.*

Class d'Abord

la nuit venue existing
waters anarchism d'une
heure avant the building
“new thought” l'incontinent
des dents *oet nfers*
,its dog ce que tu at
tends ,l'orage pp de
pied ferme impoverished
ermitage pivotal medicine
morte parmi ses mouches
lawless electricity la
voix d'autre vie a
mong windows countless
mots survivants the furnace
,telephones ,fleuves ,rêves
san fin ,glue ,capitalist
à rien ,nul seul ,bowling
,vieux arrêts .*don't hes*
itate oh menthol doctors ,sou
pçon de philosophie same
playing in the néant
,playing in the rice
.))nonsensical eeten ,de
pis la tête ,*the same verb*
.les yeux à peine ,biosat
,*and boiling in the nuit de grâce*

*Half awake in Jim Leftwich's
Six Months Aint no Sentence,
Book 43, 2013; and
Samuel Beckett's Collected Poems
1930-1978, 1986.*

se w

d clou t asb piration bbut I
NO I ...**k**then ,was n't f
ache the *Jhead shovel/* a
im mi cor n b row the “b
oiling s even's” *in take b
reath(* classy hell s tumbles
dow n th **h ill**)my sup
per folding f ills(...yr s
outh along the t rain...
...*ape the fistula...* ...am
plication mud... for got
bbut **NOT** ...)))unborn...

...ac...k ...

fla

§ wam th b read lagke
•●• w arm s pit s •●•● lo
dged again st me s pine a
))he...ll((a ,*sp lashing* at the g
ate my :*single* one ,a sh
irt sh eet s mothered =]focus
sed onna for k[= *an pl*
anned the sp read cagke))))o' er
the tos sing br ine(((yr to
wel jammed “again st” the g
rime ,prou dly riddled on yr
arm... *Jfolded cave[*

...t loaf...

sem

che

chee se an
cor n's air the ampled
pile .age of ash a
,t ent ity s warming an
pul sing at the ...edge...
ye s tink y es mor ada
d onde un co jón ...● *rat*
ificada la nube lo flot
ante de tu oj●))))*que el*
que so mático ,con cha de
tu(((...]■■■[*]la maz*
orca sem ántica/ cha
rrred in the middden

...illa

so

a mí me ra zuras a
mí te com es el de
do a mí me me tas
el ojo fini stierra *jsu*
permercado(]elotes
de petró leo[a mí y
ou eat the armbraco
embara badurnado of b
lood thinck wit ir
on ...*clank*... doubta
spla tting onna *shoe*

a *k*

sku

*Y*es dog *time* the
stebps “slimy wit h
rain” an yr coa
t liqu id topped
with er doub le sn
akes **ss** *Jthe c
age re vealed* [a
lap of soup \\wh
ere the pol es re
plied// *goin d
own mictlan’))ea*
ch cob eac h and...

ll

S

sur

be ts o’ ,k not sh
,adow *pile*)yr a
ft (er lab io
labialic indentention
≈ *lake o fla*
ke a way ≈ ≈ ≈ ≈ ≈ ≈
tease the teeth an
die

ē

eff

⊕ iderm is chemic s
horn face's skull sh
ine thru at yr))sw
all owed head((t
urns in a cloud
of ::g:n:a:t:s:::))tor
n shur t yr fin
al h~a~i~r~~~ d
rifting to the floor
.]the end emic corn min
d you ,look inside yr
eye a shoe squirms
there ,a[*greenish s*
tone

≈luvia

bu

bl *et* off dringing ,mo
t de boue ,yr c hain
sh oulder cast .the f
og charred was the f
ake ,gris kinda gristly
,was yr nek an nek
kid wheezy in the
sandwich pulled ay
yr groaning nimbus !
...*where the boiled s*
tone shines... yr
)))*faucet speech*
,*crawling like lice*

gs

pa

a filo del agua tu
hombro ,facético ,con
visaje al sur endémico
,mata de colibríes de
calambres de cumbres
y cúmulos)mente ,men
tón(((mi ángulo de
angulos lleno ≈])))in
tormentado más inseco con
T (((el brazo ,le
vantado ,se queda así
,tentación del viento ~ ~ ~
aiire sin o airre con ssentido
,mentec ato por lo me
nos o porlomenos inmen
tecato y llos jejenness
mme ppinttabann lla ccaraa

so

hú

choose to shoe the fork mi cuate ,muscle, la cacañada del la≈go diario ,dia irreas fonéticas y fo fas ,what sh apes the sock rrock ,*just take a seat* .the foaming door tus nudos ,pal ancas podridas en el fango in milenario .miles of palms ,steaming .the shod shore de cangrejos atados de chosas que las piedras guardan fu nestas ,*de la tierra nacidas* ,sombras and laces knotted in the s≈ ≈u≈r≈f≈≈ ≈ ≈ ≈ ≈ ≈

mid

o

ch

*the fe ste red n
âme de pierre verte
alchihuitl schaking
in the boiling sky s
oup - nails ⊥ and O
r ings - the storm the
sauce the gristle wh
ere yr float sh
ould be*

1p

ki

*e*g_xtra omatic nog
agin fly right out
side the shudtter d
ung - *your shit your
sky -*))done number
ham((*fog an fine an
flag an five an fire fil 1*
ming through the *rr aai
inn; ;~;.....*

no

Numb Vuelo

labyrinth piramidal de la
tierra trees funestos in the
world's running wa
ter encaminada de los
vanos continentes, obeliscos
del futile enginework, con
structs of estrellas, clouds,
streams siempre rutilantes
searching la tenebrosa guerra,
the briny sombra pavorosa,
fugitiva foam white en
tu atezado ceño, the
skin rostro thinking, ostenta
the enormous aire that folds
your memory con el aliento
denso, an eye en la quietud
contenta con su mapa de
lost desires, entrance to the
stairs nocturnos shut be
hind glass those steps in the
gravel ((que aun el silencio
no interrumpía

*Foaming in Ivan Argüelles' "parinibbana," 2013,
& the first sentence of Sor Juana's
Primeros Sueños, 1692.*

it

Sor T ilegio y ,tuerto
con double vision ,la
camista gané la ca
misa perdí me plerdí
.)en contronco en la P
laza Yaxche(the
fork path tine the
grave l or mu d my
feet in ea ch hc ae
Ay yr swelling cat
a falco n !)ay the
mumbling in the panty
con los por ontos en
vasculados con los o
jos avinadagrados...

morti ,empti ,en vuelto...

‘s

sh

*the ,cake shoit ,tombo
,my tata ,fineal ,pul
decrepitud ,yr shern
or shorn lake ,tus
jarras hundidas ,de
sangrietas las mhanos
los hanos tus shapelest
,tus scarings or scarrings
tus mis caries del habla
premaduro ,maturado en
el viinno de tus soobbaaccoos*
.my race crawls

oot

na

sw**E**t shoulder ,dog nod
ule ular my h eadless
drag contested ,w hat yr
,dim pond ,scowls to
ward the scrabbling s
hade s ubre sur la
muraille *)es puma mía(*
walked on through ~~~~
a dick tactive ,*he*
aving in yr skin ~~~~

ils

si

Out the pond my
lag intentif :wo
bbble s trung g
lobber pus neg
ate s uch st
ringing omnopostive
where yr)g **glob**
wheel ,))*la milpa*
)))*en llamas ~~~~~*

p

!

efflugmántico ,mita ,m
is man “datos” de es
puma son ,deo crushing
.jest coffer up an ,dis
solve the towel .les
jeux son fake ,“jours”
de ,masmédula y mur
allas con pájaros pin
tados ▀ con snakes
with windgs .)yr boi
ling tooth(.stro
king the pala all d
ay mis pozos de la

,*t,i,e,r,r,a,* , , , , , ,

i

m

The sieve the shape the
uussheeerr ed c
omb re gard me ca
ringing faze the f
lake(the liege sh
oe dometer of ,me ∈
yelid - azimuth er
,shaved window ,s
tool **Π** grazing in the
field

where yr wallet crystals

ud

Top Log

spread the lunch hair no
ditch my itching loot an
corn lint's yr cage a
boat turning ,turn the
suit spit off ,chains in
me a coffing towel a belt w
riggling inna skyky)*b*
omb the forks()t
omb the laundry in yr
spelt foot in each h
ot duck each tube
pluggs the drug's
inch off ,beeped
an blood ,)))*sped an*
hunching

“*gol pot*”

seal the
t

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air
)h

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whot fog

ist

chee

chee

chee

kp

door rupt

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nodt

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burndt

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ass fat

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ere worn

miler shade

wot gall

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wh
add
lur

bu
bubd
ur

enk

itcher
eanch

boible

wear the

pill the pull

the

f rack
f all
f ogust

th fape sc
kchull

heap grin

suckim

knot off

)the grease shape(

)*silly sea*(

Fango Darkening

slam shut shot half lug
gage darkening was his
door illusory ape añoranza
the sawn phone ghosts the
cumbre del goteo a
vast hotel illusion in the
slumbered sock the One
mortífero in cuicatl mud
and silent walls this vol
cano grew shaving the
glass echoed lung itch ir
redescent pulgas emplastadas
in your immense shining
:bedroom full of mist the
sperm disintegrates in your
ether signature ,rabbity
,peldaño imitado by the shud
dered cliff ,dressing its vol
cán ,fireflies bajo la hel
adora remote coins at
your throated gate hy
phenated in my vomiversos
)blank thigh in the
river(shirking ,f
low across the labyrinth
the floor the condoms and
comilenguas ,)invisible in
sects los años mili
pediados

*Made with artifacts from
3 May 2013 poems by Ivan Argüelles,
and John M. Bennett's Liber X*

Febrile Pots & Pans

bag of tongues ah blame
his sand barking window
,effluenza and that cattle
in your shale your bla
ckened feet choking
in the rice ,bar king
shirts barking cattle
masks their heads g
one ,misturanza burning
in your arrowed signs
my spfinal page nothing
but your drained cattle's
pantsless air ,*fever*
in the bean conference
)kinda stringy(alive
with lunch hair ngngnq
stroke of dust your
glob choir hanging in a
bush)sogaemética(un
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*Made with chunks of Jim Leftwich's
Six Months Aint No Sentence, Book 44,
2013, and John M. Bennett's Liber X*